Expenditure on health services

†582. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a meagre percentage of National income is being spent on health services;

(b) if so, the percentage of amount spent by the Centre and State Governments during the last three years; and

(c) the details of steps under consideration to increase the percentage of expenditure in consultation with State Governments in the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) As per information supplied by Central Statistical Organization for the years 1999-2000,2000-01 and 2001-02, the percentage of health expenditure incurred by Central and State Governments to Net National Product at factor cost (National Income) is 1.0,1.02 and 0.91 respectively.

(c) The National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) envisages increasing public spending on health to at least 2-3% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) over the next five years. The National Health Policy, 2002 also envisages increasing public health investment to 2% of GDP by 2010. To achieve this, the Health Policy stipulates increasing the expenditure on health by State Governments to 7% of their budget by 2005 and to 8% of their budget by 2010. The policy further envisages to raise the Central Government's contribution from 15% to 25% by 2010 The Government proposes to take all possible steps to increase public investment on health as envisaged in the NCMP, keeping in view the overall budgetary resources and the sectoral priorities.

Infant mortality rate

583. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the infant mortality rate in the country for the last five years, State-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.